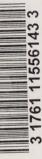
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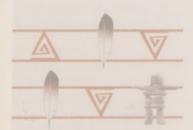
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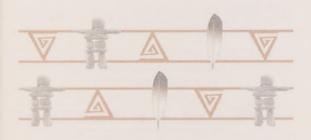




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COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSES WORKING WITH FIRST NATIONS AND INUIT HEALTH BRANCH

Information Guide



Assuring nursing competencies in First Nations and Inuit communities...

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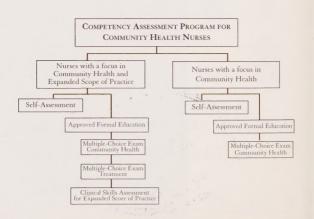
WHAT IS THE COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT PROGRAM?

The First Nations and Inuit Health Branch (FNIHB) of Health Canada has developed and produced a multi-stage Competency Assessment Program for Community Health Nurses working in First Nations and Inuit communities.

The Competency Assessment Program has three distinct parts as illustrated in the flowchart below: Part I: Self-Assessment, Part II: Multiple-Choice Examinations, and Part III: Clinical Skills Assessment for Expanded Scope of Practice.

The three distinct parts of this program combine to provide a comprehensive assessment of nursing skills required of Community Health Nurses in First Nations and Inuit communities. Each part of the assessment program was developed to ensure they:

- Are realistic
- Reflect current practice
- Are professionally sound





COMPETENCY ASSURANCE

Expanded Scope of Practice nursing in First Nations and Inuit communities requires a unique body of knowledge with distinct expertise. A Community Health Nurse in this setting works with clients, families, community groups, and other health care professionals to achieve and maintain optimal health as an integral part of well-being. This Competency Assessment Program was designed to provide a competency assurance to the public through appropriate professional background, education, and assessment.

SELF-STUDY GUIDE

If you have not completed a recognized education program in Clinical Skills and/or Community Health Nursing, the Self-Study Guide will help to facilitate meeting your personal learning needs.

The guide contains examples of bibliographic resources for the competencies evaluated in the Competency Assessment Program. These resources include current texts that contain information related directly to the skills and knowledge required of the Community Health Nurse working in First Nations and Inuit communities.







nursing competence...

WHAT ARE THE THREE PARTS LIKE?

PART I: SELF ASSESSMENT

The Self-Assessment is an effective means nurses to understand and evaluate the wide rate of knowledge, skills, and abilities required Community Health Nurses working in a Invations or Inuit community. The self-assessment consists of a Community Health component and Treatment component.

All Community Health Nurses newly employed the First Nations and Inuit Health Branch required to participate in Part I: Self-Assessmant In addition, Community Health Nurses employed by First Nations and Inuit Health Authorities and Choose to participate.

PART II: MULTIPLE-CHOICE EXAMINATION

The Multiple-Choice Examinations assess knowledge and critical thinking required Community Health Nurses working in F Nations and Inuit communities and who had completed a recognized program. This assessm is composed of two exams, (a) the Commun Health examination and (b) the Treatm examination.

Nurses will write the exam or exams related their scope of practice. Community Health Nur will write exam (a), and Community Health Nurses with a focus in Expanded Scope of Practivity write exam (a) and (b).

Part III: Clinical Skills Assessment for Expanded Scope of Practice

The Clinical Skills Assessment for Expanded Scope of Practice is intended for nurses with a treatment focus who have participated in the multiple-choice examinations. In the assessment, simulated nursing treatment situations are used to ensure that Community Health Nurses with a focus in Expanded Scope of Practice possess the necessary clinical skills to perform primary care case management.

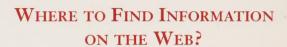
WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

The Competency Assessment Program allows you to build on the solid foundation of entry to practice through your Canadian RN registration. It is a commitment to the leading edge of national health care standards for Community Health Nurses working in First Nations and Inuit communities. It gives national recognition to the principle of continued competence with which everybody wins: you, your clients, and your employer.

WHY ARE YOU PARTICIPATING?

- Participating in this competency assessment helps you stay current by evaluating your specialized knowledge and skills.
- It provides for evaluation and feedback of mandatory education programs.
- It provides for ongoing identification of Learning Needs and Continuing Competency.

... and a commitment to excellence in health care.



Additional information about the Competency Assessment Program for Expanded Scope of Practice Nurses working with First Nations and Inuit Health Branch is posted on the Health Canada website:

www.hc-sc.gc.ca/msb/fniph

How to Reach Us?

For more information on the Competency Assessment Program and to obtain the Self-Study Guide and Application Guide, you can contact your Nursing Manager.

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